REMARKS

Claims 36-56 and 69-74 are presently pending. Claims 69-72 have been canceled. Claims 73 and 74 have been amended. Claims 75-82 have been added. Claims 36-56 have been allowed. Support for the amendments are found in the claims.

Rejection of Claims 69-74 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)

Claims 69-71, 73, and 74 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) in view of U.S. Patent 5,534,231, issued to Savas on July 9, 1996. The Examiner states that Savas discloses a plasma reactor comprising a solid support member in combination with a carrier and electromagnetic inductor, said support member comprising an electrically conducting material on the surface turning against the side of the carrier carrying a specimen, and the electromagnetic inductor able to generate a magnetic field.

Also, Claims 69-74 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) in view of U.S. Patent 5,556,501, issued to Collins *et al.* on September 17, 1996. The Examiner states that Collins discloses a domed plasma reactor comprising a solid support member in combination with a carrier and electromagnetic inductor, said support member comprising an electrically conducting material on the surface turning against the side of the carrier carrying a specimen, and said electromagnetic inductor being able to generate a magnetic field.

Neither reference discloses a support member being a cover plate for a carrier such as a microscope slide support member for testing or treating a specimen where the support member includes electrically conducting material. In particular, there is no disclosure of a support member that includes electrically conducting material on the surface turning against or facing the side of the carrier that carries the specimen.

Further, there is no disclosure or suggestion in the references of a method for controlling the temperature of a biological specimen while testing or treating said biological specimen by employing a solid support member in combination with a carrier and an electromagnetic inductor. In the method, the inductor includes electrically conducting material on the surface facing the side of the carrier carrying the specimen, and generating a magnetic field with the electromagnetic inductor in the presence of the biological specimen.

CONCLUSION

In view of the above amendments and remarks, it is believed that all claims are in condition for allowance, and it is respectfully requested that the application be passed to issue. If the Examiner believes that a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this case, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

HAMILTON, BROOK, SMITH & REYNOLDS, P.C.

Robert T. Conway
Registration No. 33,859
Telephone: (978) 341-0036
Facsimile: (978) 341-0136

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Concord, Massachusetts 01742-9133